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Letter dated 22 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

At approximately 5.20 p.m. local time, at the peak of rush hour, a car bomb was detonated near a local bus on one of Hadera's main streets. The powerful explosion ripped through the bus and caused extensive damage to a number of shops nearby. Two Israeli civilians were killed in the attack and over 41 were wounded. This attack, the latest in an escalating series of bombings that have targeted Israeli citizens, comes just two days after the bombing of an Israeli school bus, an attack which claimed two lives and critically wounded several young children.

The Government of Israel holds the Palestinian Authority fully responsible for these attacks. The Palestinian leadership, which for weeks has incited their people to violence, and has released scores of terrorist prisoners convicted of perpetrating terrorist attacks against Israelis, has, in both word and deed, given a clear signal to extremist elements to carry out violent attacks aimed at claiming Israeli lives. Despite Israel's numerous warnings, the Palestinian Authority has failed to take the necessary actions that could have prevented these attacks.

The international community must bring its influence to bear on Chairman Arafat, and urge him to restrain terrorist elements operating in the areas under his control, resume security cooperation with Israel and put an immediate end to violent activities. This latest escalation of Palestinian terrorism gravely imperils our ability to bring about a return to peaceful negotiations.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 164, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Yehuda Lancry**
Permanent Representative

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